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BUILDING NEWS : AND : GOSSIP

PLANS OF LINCOLN MEMORIAL ON VIEW

Designs on Exhibition in the National Museum.

Two designs for the proposed Lincoln Memorial were placed on public view at the National Museum yesterday.

The design of Henry Bacon, architect, of New York, contemplates the construction of a granite pile on a site in Potomac Park, and that of John Russell Pope, architect, and Adolph A. Weinman, sculptor, was prepared with the idea of using a site at the Soldiers' Home. Both designs will remain on view at the Museum until all persons and societies which are interested in seeing erected in Washington a fitting tribute to Lincoln may have opportunity to inspect them.

The Pope plan contemplates the erection in the Soldiers' Home grounds of a great open-air colonnade with a statue of Lincoln in heroic size in the center. The Bacon plan calls for the creation of an artificial terrace totaling twenty-seven feet in height above the present ground level in Potomac Park, on the top of which the architect would have placed a granite platform 231 feet long and 165 feet wide, surmounted by a colonnade 171 feet long and 108 feet wide.

Inside the colonnade is the memorial hall, which has a total height of 88 feet above finished grade, or 130 feet above high-water mark in the Potomac River. This design makes the memorial in the form of a monument symbolizing the union of the United States of America, inclosing in the walls of its sanctuary three memorials to the man himself, one a statue of heroic size, expressing his human personality; the others memorials of his two great speeches—one of the Gettysburg speech, the other of his second inaugural address, each with attendant sculpture and painting, telling in allegory of his splendid qualities evident in those speeches.

In the description which accompanied the Bacon design it is stated that "the statue will occupy the place of honor, a position facing the entrance, which opens toward the Capitol. This position is in the central hall, separated by screens of columns from the spaces at each side, in each of which will be one of the other memorials. Each of these three memorials will thus be secluded and isolated and will exert its greatest influence."

"By means of terraces, the ground at the site in Potomac Park will be raised until the same level is obtained as the ground at the base of the Washington Monument."

"First, a circular terrace, 1,000 feet in

diameter, is raised 11 feet above the present grade. On its outer edge will be planted four concentric rows of trees, leaving a plateau in the center 750 feet in diameter, which is 4 feet greater than the length of the Capitol.

"In the center of this plateau, surrounded by wide roadways and walks, will rise a terrace 16 feet high, and 500 feet in diameter, making the total elevation of grade 27 feet above the present grade. On this rises the memorial to Lincoln.

"This colonnade of the Union surrounds the wall of the memorial hall, which rises through and above it, and at the top of the wall is a decoration, supported at intervals by eagles, of forty-eight memorial festoons, one for each State in the Union to-day."

WASHINGTON RANKS FOURTH ON THE LIST

November Statistics from Building Inspector.

Washington ranked fourth among all the cities of the United States in point of building during November, according to statistics just issued by the building inspector's office. The three cities which surpassed Washington were New York, Chicago, and Boston.

The local building inspector's office has recently taken up the practice of reporting both private and public building enterprises in all the larger cities throughout the country. The figures for November have just been received, and the comparison places Washington well up near the top of the list.

In this city during November buildings to the value of \$4,254,915 were started. This figure includes the new building for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and that for the new city post-office.

New York, which heads the column, started \$11,674,380 worth of new building; Chicago started \$7,154,000 and Boston \$5,832,000. Such cities as Brooklyn and Philadelphia were in the \$2,000,000 class.

Surprising figures come from the Pacific Coast. Portland, Oreg., reports \$2,022,000 of new building; Los Angeles, \$1,707,233, and San Francisco, \$1,617,830. St. Louis and Cleveland report more than a million dollars each.

The total for seventy principal cities reporting to Construction News is \$2,123,967.

HOUSE OF MERCY FIGURES IN SALE

Property Bought by St. Stephen's Catholic Church.

With the announcement yesterday of the sale of the former House of Mercy property, located at Twenty-fourth and K streets northwest, another chapter has been added to the history of one of the most unique institutions of this city.

This property, which was formerly owned by a corporation known as the Association for Works of Mercy, has been purchased through the office of H. L. Rust for St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Twenty-fifth street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest. The price paid was \$12,500.

The House of Mercy, a three-story structure, containing about sixteen rooms, was built about thirty years ago for the purpose of providing a home for incorrigible girls and for women in destitute circumstances. It was occupied as such until several months ago, when the institution moved to its new home at Kingle Ford road and Rosemont avenue, adjoining Rock Creek Park. The House of Mercy is an Episcopal institution, operated under the auspices of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.

Occupies Large Lot.

The property which figures in the sale has a frontage of about 150 feet on K street and about 150 feet in Twenty-fourth street. The building formerly used as the House of Mercy occupies one corner of the lot, the remainder being used as a park or garden. The entire property is surrounded by a high brick wall.

During the thirty or more years it was used as a house of refuge, hundreds of women and girls were cared for in this unique institution. It was open to every one, and the life within its walls was responsible for the reformation of scores of incorrigible girls and women.

Just what use to which the old building will be placed, now that it has changed owners, has not yet been announced, but it is understood that it may be used for a parish hall. For several years St. Stephen's Church had been contemplating purchasing a site for this purpose on the north side of K street, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth streets. The House of Mercy site is much better suited for such a purpose because of its shape and size and location. It is just across the street from St. Anne's Infant Asylum.

Last night Rev. Joseph Cassidy, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, said that while the property would be used for a church building, he was yet unable to make a more definite announcement regarding the nature of the proposed structure.

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RAIN DELAYS WORK.

Columbus Memorial on Plaza Held Up by Weather.

Because of the rain during the last week, the work of assembling parts of the Columbus Memorial, to be erected on the Columbus Station plaza, has been greatly delayed. The first stone probably will be set in place to-day.

The massive blocks are arriving daily, and it will not be long before most of them have been set. Twenty re-enforced concrete girders already have been placed in position as a foundation for the memorial.

The contract calls for the completion of the memorial by May 1. It will cost about \$200,000.

HYATT HAS CHANCE.

Mysteriously Slashed Man May Survive Injuries.

Albert B. Hyatt, proprietor of the Lincoln Hotel, Tenth and H streets northwest, about whose finding with scores of cuts on his body Sunday night a mystery hung, is reported to have a good chance to recover.

Emergency Hospital surgeons say that if he recovers from his wounds, especially the cut across his throat, his case will be an unusual one.

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Twenty-third and N streets northwest—Reagan to John G. Burns, \$5.

'FLATFOOT' GUNNER HIT WITH HAMMER

Two Marines Charged with Assaulting Seaman.

Suffering from a fracture of the skull inflicted with a hammer, E. R. Gillette, a seaman gunner, stationed at the Washington Navy Yard, was removed from his home, 123 L street southeast yesterday to the Naval Hospital, Ninth street and Pennsylvania avenue southeast. Police assert two marines assaulted Gillette late Monday night while he was leaving the house of a man named Mills at 127 1/2 L street southeast. The marines, A. J. Dell and J. J. Shepherd, were locked up at the navy yard and later turned over to the Fifth precinct.

Had feeling between the two marines and Gillette is said to have existed for some time, because of the application of the epithet "flatfoot" to the seaman gunner by his alleged assailants.

At the hospital Gillette said he would rather have the police drop the matter. Late last night physicians pronounced his chances for recovery good.

Those Birds.

From Post.

Country Cousins—Blamed if this ain't the first time I ever saw fireflies when they was snow on the ground.

City Relative—There are not fireflies. They are cigarette butts falling from the aeroplanes.

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Stonework.....	\$150	Carpenter work.....	\$475	Range.....	\$40

Total.....	\$2,525
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—Clyde Smith Adams, Architect.